

**PSY 339:001 Psychology of Women – 3.0 Credit Hours**  
**Fall Semester, 2019**  
**Meets: Monday & Wednesday 3:00pm – 4:20pm**  
**G008 Holden Hall**

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**Instructor:** Dr. Jonathan R. Weaver (pronouns - he/him/his and they/them/theirs) – [weaver71@msu.edu](mailto:weaver71@msu.edu)

**Office hours:** Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday 12:00pm – 1:00pm (or by appointment) in Psychology 252a

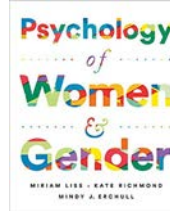
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**Graduate TA:** Rosaura Dominguez-Rebollar (pronouns – she/her/hers) – [doming75@msu.edu](mailto:doming75@msu.edu)

**Office hours:** Wednesday 11am – 12:00pm (or by appointment) in Psychology 15B

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**Required Textbook:** Psychology of Women and Gender, by Liss, Richmond, and Erchull



**Course Webpage:** On D2L (<https://d2l.msu.edu/>). This page will provide you with the notes for the lectures, homework assignments, grades, and other important class information.

**Course Overview:** Until recently, most psychological research focused on the experiences of men and was conducted by male researchers. The unique experiences of women were either ignored or extrapolated from the experiences of men. The psychology of women aims to correct this imbalance by focusing on the experiences of women. In this course, we'll study the ways in which men and women are different, but also how they are similar. We'll cover theories and research related to women's socialization, development, work experiences, sexuality, and health. In addition, we will explore the diversity that exists among women, particularly in regards to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and sexual orientation.

**Course Goals:** 1) To learn about the research methods and major theories relevant to the psychology of women. 2) To learn to think critically about conclusions made by psychologists and other social scientists. 3) To apply ideas from the course to your own life experiences.

**Attendance:** Attendance in class is expected, although no formal attendance will be taken. However, there are randomly given quizzes, and exams will draw heavily from lecture materials and class discussions, so attending class regularly is to your benefit. In addition, there will be topics and concepts covered in lecture that will not be found in the textbook. If you must miss class, you are encouraged to meet with one or more of your peers to discuss the material that you missed.

**Honors Option:** There is an honors option for this course, which involves creating an ePhoto Album, participating in discussions with other honors option students, and writing a paper. **Email Dr. Weaver before 9/13/19 for instructions.**

**Evaluation Criteria:**

**Written Assignments:** There are three short assignments offered in this class, each are approximately 2-4 pages in length. You will pick two out of the three to complete. This is not a lowest score gets dropped situation. Your first two graded assignments will be counted. For example, if you turn in all three assignments, only the first two assignments will be graded and counted towards your final grade. The three assignment options will be posted on the D2L course webpage for you to plan accordingly. Each assignment's specific due date is only for that assignment. For example, you cannot turn in Assignment 3 when Assignment 1 is due, or you cannot turn in Assignment 1 when Assignment 2 is due. These papers will allow you the opportunity to

apply the concepts learned in the class to the outside world. Each assignment is worth 50 points (10% of your final grade), so in total the two graded assignments account for 20% of your final grade (100 points).

If you believe your assignment grade is incorrect, you may appeal the grade. All grade appeals must observe the following rules: 1) they must be in writing; 2) you must clearly provide support for the appeal by citing relevant page(s) in the textbook or the relevant lecture material; 3) appeals must be emailed to Rosaura ([doming75@msu.edu](mailto:doming75@msu.edu)) with Dr. Weaver CC'ed ([weaver71@msu.edu](mailto:weaver71@msu.edu)) within 5 days of the posted grade.

**Online Group Discussions:** You will be put into a random discussion group of 10 – 15 other students in your class. Each of the seven discussion board weeks is worth 4 points. Your lowest two weeks will be dropped. Therefore, only your top five discussion board weeks will be counted towards your final grade for a total of 20 points (4% of your total grade). See the course schedule at the end of the syllabus for due dates. Also, **see the discussion board guidelines posted on the D2L course webpage for complete instructions.**

**Quizzes:** Five unannounced in-class quizzes will be given periodically throughout the semester. Each quiz will be worth 10 points. Your lowest two quiz grades will be dropped. Therefore, only your top 3 quiz scores will be counted towards your final grade for a total of 30 points (6% of your total grade).

**Exams:** Four exams will be given in class – three during the regularly scheduled class period, and one during the final exam period. Each exam will consist of multiple-choice questions and short answer questions. Any material from lecture, the text, videos, and related materials (even discussion points made by other students) are fair game for exam questions.

The three semester exams will not be cumulative, are each worth 100 points, and the lowest score of the three will be dropped. Therefore, your two highest semester exam scores determine the semester exam points you receive. Semester exams determine 40% of your final grade.

The final exam will be cumulative and is required – it cannot be one of your dropped exams. The final exam is worth 150 points (30% of your total grade).

**Makeup Quizzes and Exams:** No makeup quizzes or exams will be given unless you have a valid excuse. **You must notify Dr. Weaver that you have a valid excuse by the end of the day of the given quiz or exam. Failure to do so will result in you not being allowed to take the makeup quiz or exam.** There are no exceptions to these rules. Also, note that makeup quizzes consist of short answer questions.

If you cannot take an exam or quiz because of a religious holiday, required participation in a university-sanctioned event (e.g., a commitment for a sports team), or some other acceptable event that can be foreseen, you must notify Dr. Weaver **at least two weeks in advance**. Absence from an exam or quiz **for any other reason** – family obligations, job interviews, and vacations – will result in a grade of 0 for that exam or quiz.

**All Exams will begin at 3:00pm.** You may arrive late, but no more exams will be handed out after the first student completes the exam. Exams 1-3 must be turned in by 4:20pm. The Final Exam must be turned in by 5:00pm. During exams, you may only have pencils and erasers at your desk. Leave refreshments or other materials zipped up in your book bag or do not bring them at all. Turn off anything that makes noise. Once the exam has begun, there will be no talking or disruptions. Leaving the room is reserved for emergency bathroom breaks only. Exam grades will be posted online as soon as they are available from the scoring office. Exams will not be posted, but you may view your exams during Dr. Weaver's, or Rosaura's, office hours. **However, each exam must be looked at before the next exam is given. For example, after Exam 2 has been given you are no longer permitted to view Exam 1.**

**Extra Credit:** You may accumulate an additional 1% extra course points by participating in ongoing research. All such participation will be through the Department of Psychology's HPR (Human Participation in Research)

/ SONA program. You will receive 0.5 extra-credit points for each half-hour that you spend participating in an experiment or study, up to a maximum of 5 extra-credit points (or, 5 total hours = 10 half-hours). **More detailed information for setting up your HPR / SONA account and how to sign up for research hours will be provided on the D2L course webpage.**

**Alternative to research participation:** If you do not wish to participate in psychological research, you may write a research-based paper that is designed for this situation. Details about the paper requirements will be posted on D2L. All papers are due by November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at 5pm. The assignment folder will close promptly at 5pm and no papers will be accepted after this. **There will be no exceptions to this rule.**

**Grading:** Your final grade will be based on the following course percentage points:

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>% of final grade</b>
Top 2 (out of 3) Exam Scores	200	40%
Final Exam	150	30%
Chosen 2 (out of 3) Written Assignments	100	20%
Top 3 (out of 5) Quizzes	30	6%
Online Discussion Group Activity	20	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Extra Credit</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>+1% potentially</b>

The grading scale is as follows:

<b>Total Points</b>	<b>Grade</b>
450 – 500	4.0
425 – 449	3.5
400 – 424	3.0
375 – 399	2.5
350 – 374	2.0
325 – 349	1.5
300 – 324	1.0
0 – 299	0.0

**Policy on grade changes:** Extra credit is the only way to increase your point total if you are concerned about falling on the wrong side on one of these cut-offs. At the end of the semester, if you believe that an error was made in calculating your grade, please let Dr. Weaver know. Your grade will be checked and changed if an error was made. **This is the only circumstance under which your grade will change.** Under no circumstance will your grade be “bumped”, or a special extra credit opportunity be given. Please don’t ask. **There will be no exceptions.**

**Cheating:** Any student caught cheating on an exam, cheating on a quiz, plagiarizing an assignment, or plagiarizing a discussion post will receive a zero for the course, and be reported to the University.

**Academic Honesty:** Any and all forms of cheating are unacceptable. Students are expected to complete quizzes, exams, and written assignments individually and without outside help. Any student caught cheating on quizzes, exams, or written assignments will receive a ZERO in this course. Legalistic Details: Article 2.3.3 of the *Academic Freedom Report* states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, the Psychology Department adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, *Protection of Scholarship and Grades*; the all-University Policy on *Integrity of Scholarship and Grades*; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. For extensive details see *Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide*. Further

information about cheating can be found on a website provided by the MSU Ombudsman (<https://www.msu.edu/~ombud/academic-integrity/student-faq.html>). Make sure you are familiar with MSU definitions regarding academic dishonesty. Ignorance is not an excuse.

You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, unless authorized, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework and exams, without assistance from any source (except as specified in the assignment). This also means that you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. In addition, plagiarism of written work is forbidden. It includes taking the work of another individual or source and presenting it as your own. This is considered plagiarism even if the source has given you permission to use their work, or the work is in the public domain (e.g., on the web). Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the assignment or in the course; and may be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Affairs. Contact your instructor, or TA, if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. Or, for examples of what constitutes plagiarism, see:

- <http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>
- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>

**Policy on Religious Observations:** If you anticipate being absent from class due to a major religious observance, please provide notice of the date(s) to Dr. Weaver, in writing, by the 1/17/19.

**Note taking and recording:** You are encouraged to take notes on the lecture and are permitted to tape-record class sessions for your own purposes. However, you are not permitted to take notes or tape-record for purposes of sale and distribution, no matter how financially lucrative Dr. Weaver's lectures might be.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at <http://rcpd.msu.edu>. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation ("VISA") form. **Please present this form to Dr. Weaver at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (exam, quiz, etc.). Requests received after this date may not be honored.**

**If you require testing accommodations (additional time, less disruptive room, etc.) you must contact Dr. Weaver and present your VISA at least two weeks before the exam date to schedule an alternative exam.** Typically, you can take the exam during a special exam session offered by the Psychology Department. Those exams occur in small group settings, and Dr. Weaver will contact you regarding the specific times and locations. If you are unable to make the times offered, or that option does not meet your VISA accommodations, you may be able to schedule to take your exam at the RCPD office. In either case, the exam must be scheduled well in advance, so you need to adhere to the two-week prior notification requirement.

**Academic Assistance:** This is a university, and you are expected to produce college level work. If you have any trouble with the material covered in class, please make an appointment to speak with me, or one of the course assistants. Additionally, the university has resources to assist students, such as the Campus Tutorial Center, the Campus Writing Center, Adult Student Services, and more. A lot is expected of you, but the university wants to help you to produce your best work.

**Limits to Confidentiality:** Please be aware that class materials are generally considered confidential pursuant to the University's student policies. However, all University employees, including instructors, cannot maintain confidentiality when it conflicts with their responsibility to report certain issues based on external legal obligations or health and safety considerations of MSU community members and others. Dr. Weaver and Rosaura must report the following information (including your name and the details of the disclosure) to the Office of Inclusion if you share it with us:

- **Suspected child abuse/neglect, even if this maltreatment happened when you were a child,**
- **Allegations of sexual assault or sexual harassment when they involve MSU students, faculty or staff, and**
- **Credible threats of harm to oneself or to others.**

The Office of Inclusion will reach out to you via a confidential email, to see if you would like to pursue legal action and to provide you with additional university resources. **You have the right to choose whether or not you would like to utilize any of these services or even respond to the university's email.** If you would like to talk about these events in a more confidential setting, you are encouraged to make an appointment with the MSU Counseling Center (<http://counseling.msu.edu>).

While this policy will be discussed and critiqued throughout the semester, it is an MSU required mandate that Dr. Weaver and Rosaura are required to follow as MSU employees. Given this, **you should not disclose experiences of abuse or sexual violence related to MSU unless you are comfortable having this information shared with the Office of Inclusion.** Despite the mandate, Dr. Weaver does not want to further the culture of silence surrounding abuse and sexual violence in this class. All are encouraged to use the resources listed below (not mandated university reporters) as they process their feelings and experiences in this course.

MSU Safe Place <http://safespace.msu.edu/>  
(517) 355-1100

NRCDV <http://www.nrcdv.org/>

NNEVD <http://www.nnedv.org/>

NCDSV <http://www.ncdsv.org/>

MCEDSV <http://www.mcedsv.org/>

No More <http://nomore.org/>

RAINN <https://rainn.org/>

The Joyful Heart Foundation <http://www.joyfulheartfoundation.org/>

Futures Without Violence <http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/>

Feministing <http://feministing.com/>

**E-Mail Policy:** E-mail is the best way to get a hold of us (Dr. Weaver or one of the course assistants). However, please use the following guidelines when e-mailing one of us:

- **First, ask yourself this question: “Can this question be answered by looking in the syllabus or looking on the D2L course site?”**
- Use PSY 339 in the subject line that makes it clear you are a student in this course asking a question. This helps to prevent e-mails from going directly to the junk folder.
- Please address the e-mail properly (i.e., Hi Rosaura; Hello Dr. Weaver).
- Proofread your e-mail. Is your question conveyed clearly with correct grammar and spelling? Did autocorrect make it sound super weird?
- Please sign your e-mail with your full name, so we know who you are. We can't wait to get to know all of you, but [maizeandbluearetheworst@spartans.com](mailto:maizeandbluearetheworst@spartans.com) makes it hard for us to know who you are.
- Be polite.

Check your e-mail and course site regularly! During the course, we will e-mail you or post on the course site from time to time with announcements and reminders. Please read these e-mails or posts as soon as you receive them, and please check your e-mail and the course site regularly.

Dr. Weaver's five rules for a happy and productive class:  
 1) *Put your cell phones away.* 2) *Show up to lectures on time.*  
 3) *Ask questions.* 4) *Be courteous of other people.*  
 5) *Wait for lecture to end before packing up your stuff to leave.*

**Disclaimer:** Below is a general indication of when we will cover the topics in the course. However, as the instructor, Dr. Weaver reserves the right to adjust this schedule according to the pace of the course and the needs of the students. This also includes making any changes that Dr. Weaver deems necessary to the details and/or policies listed in this syllabus. **Check D2L regularly to keep up with the topics. You will be given notice of any changes. Also, please know that you are responsible for keeping track of all due dates.**

### PSY 339 Course Schedule for Fall 2019

Date	Lecture Topic	Readings
Wednesday: 8/28	Introduction	Chapter 1
<b>Monday: 9/2</b>	<b>No Class! Have a SAFE and fun Labor Day!</b>	
Wednesday: 9/4	Introduction	Chapter 1
Monday: 9/9	Power and Privilege	Chapter 2
Wednesday: 9/11	Power and Privilege	Chapter 2
<b>Friday: 9/13</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #1 Photo &amp; Caption</b>	<b>Photo &amp; Caption Due at 11:59pm</b>
<b>Sunday: 9/15</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #1 Comments</b>	<b>2 Comments Due at 11:59pm</b>
Monday: 9/16	Similarities and Differences	Chapter 3
Wednesday: 9/18	Similarities and Differences	Chapter 3
<b>Friday: 9/20</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #2 Photo &amp; Caption</b>	<b>Photo &amp; Caption Due at 11:59pm</b>
<b>Sunday: 9/22</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #2 Comments</b>	<b>2 Comments Due at 11:59pm</b>
Monday: 9/23	Beyond the Sex/Gender Binary	Chapter 4
Wednesday: 9/25	Beyond the Sex/Gender Binary	Chapter 4
<b>Monday: 9/30</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>	<b>Chapters 1 – 4; class notes</b>
Wednesday: 10/2	Gender Socialization	Chapter 5
<b>Friday: 10/4</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #3 Photo &amp; Caption</b>	<b>Photo &amp; Caption Due at 11:59pm</b>
<b>Sunday: 10/6</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #3 Comments</b>	<b>2 Comments Due at 11:59pm</b>
Monday: 10/7	Gender Socialization	Chapter 5
Wednesday: 10/9	Women's Bodies	Chapter 6
<b>Friday: 10/11</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #4 Photo &amp; Caption</b>	<b>Photo &amp; Caption Due at 11:59pm</b>
<b>Sunday: 10/13</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #4 Comments</b>	<b>2 Comments Due at 11:59pm</b>
Monday: 10/14	Women's Bodies	Chapter 6
Wednesday: 10/16	Sexuality and Sexualization	Chapter 7
<b>Friday: 10/18</b>	<b>Assignment #1 Due at 5pm</b>	<b>Assignment #1 Due at 5pm</b>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lecture Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
Monday: 10/21	Sexuality and Sexualization	Chapter 7
Wednesday: 10/23	Guest Speaker: Sara Chadwick	
<b>Friday: 10/25</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #5 Photo &amp; Caption</b>	<b>Photo &amp; Caption Due at 11:59pm</b>
<b>Sunday: 10/27</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #5 Comments</b>	<b>2 Comments Due at 11:59pm</b>
Monday: 10/28	Relationships	Chapter 8
Wednesday: 10/30	Relationships	Chapter 8
<b>Monday: 11/4</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>	<b>Chapters 5 – 8; class notes</b>
Wednesday: 11/6	Reproduction and Mothering	Chapter 9
<b>Friday: 11/8</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #6 Photo &amp; Caption</b>	<b>Photo &amp; Caption Due at 11:59pm</b>
<b>Sunday: 11/10</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #6 Comments</b>	<b>2 Comments Due at 11:59pm</b>
Monday: 11/11	Reproduction and Mothering	Chapter 9
Wednesday: 11/13	Work	Chapter 10
<b>Friday: 11/15</b>	<b>Assignment #2 Due at 5pm</b>	<b>Assignment #2 Due at 5pm</b>
Monday: 11/18	Work	Chapter 10
Wednesday: 11/20	Gender-Based Violence	Chapter 12
<b>Friday: 11/22</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #7 Photo &amp; Caption</b>	<b>Photo &amp; Caption Due at 11:59pm</b>
<b>Sunday: 11/24</b>	<b>Online Discussion Board #7 Comments</b>	<b>2 Comments Due at 11:59pm</b>
Monday: 11/25	Gender-Based Violence	Chapter 12
<b>Wednesday: 11/27</b>	<b>No Class! Recorded lecture for Mental Health</b>	<b>Chapter 13</b>
Monday: 12/2	Mental Health	Chapter 13
<b>Wednesday: 12/4</b>	<b>Exam 3</b>	<b>Chapter 9 – 13; class notes</b>
<b>Friday: 12/6</b>	<b>Assignment #3 Due at 5pm</b>	<b>Assignment #3 Due at 5pm</b>
<b>Monday: 12/9</b>	<b>Final Exam (required) 3:00pm – 5:00pm</b>	<b>Chapters 1-10 &amp; 12-13; class notes</b>